GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4621
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001
MILK ADULTERATION
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has about 200 million milch heads with some 75 million farmers producing about 78 million tonnes of milk a year with productivity of less than 1000 kg. per year of milk yield as against some 12000 in Israel;

(b) whether average monthly income of a dairy farmer is about Rs.1000/- as against estimated income of Rs. 1 lakh for a person engaged in milk adulteration business which has emerged as a thriving parallel milk economy as reported in the Hindustan Times dated December 26, 2000;

(c) whether any anti-adulteration steps have been taken apart from improvement in the productivity of milch animal as outlined in plan documents, NDDB/NDRI plans over the decades;

(d) whether synthetic milk detection kits developed by the Government have made any dent on milk adulteration; and

(e) if so, the details of such kits sold, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): As per livestock census 1992 the milch animal population of India was 98.07 millions and the production of milk in 1998-99 was 75.2 million tonnes. The average yield of milk per cow and buffalo during 1998-99 was 1049 and 1552 litres per annum respectively.

(b): The observation reported in the Hindustan Times, dated 26.12.2000 have quoted from the study of a NGO `INITIATIVES` Mumbai The study by `Initiatives` is based on the data from inadequate sample size covering selected areas only to arrive at invalid results and misleading generalizations.

(c): Sale of milk and milk products containing substances not found in milk except as provided in the Rules, is already prohibited under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955. The Food (Health) Authorities of the States/U.Ts. have been advised to step-up surveillance measures and take appropriate legal action against the offenders.

(d): National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal has devised field testing kit for checking adulteration under the field condition. It has helped in discouraging the practice of adulteration in milk under commercial condition.

(e): So far the Institute has sold 74 nos. of these kits. The details of such kits sold, State-wise are being collected.